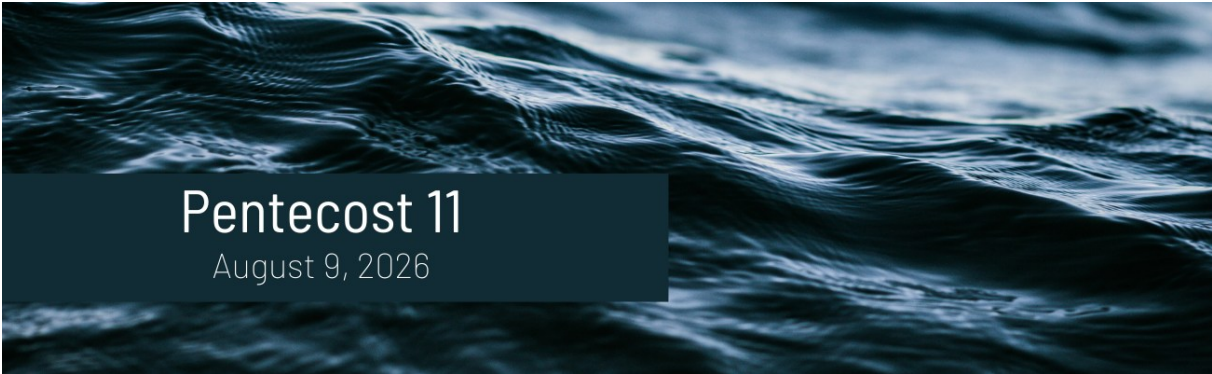




Pentecost 11

August 9, 2026

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH | stjamesgp.org | 313.884.0511
170 McMillan Rd. Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
Pastor Denise M. Grant | pastor@stjamesgp.org

WELCOME

Welcome to Saint James, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the Southeast Michigan Synod. Thank you for being part of this gathered assembly as we worship the Risen Lord and receive the sacrament. If this is your first time worshipping with Saint James, we extend a special greeting to you and invite you to introduce yourself to your neighbor in the pew. If you have questions about Saint James or are looking for a spiritual home, please reach out to Pastor Grant (pastor@stjamesgp.org).

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

WORSHIP & HOLY EUCHARIST

All of the materials needed for this liturgy can be found in this bulletin and in the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) book found in the pew rack. The celebration of the sacrament, **Holy Eucharist** (also called the Lord's Supper and Holy Communion), is central to our worship. As host of the meal, Jesus extends a wide welcome for all to participate. Distribution information is found on page 10. If you would prefer to commune in the pew, please alert an usher prior to the start of worship.

NEXT SUNDAY Worship at St. Paul at 10:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Aria* Jan Bender

GATHERING

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

STAND

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

*The sign of the cross
is made in
remembrance
of Holy Baptism.*

Bathed with the waters of baptism and clothed with the assurance of
God's grace, let us come before God to confess our sins.

silence for reflection and confession

Compassionate God,
**we confess to you all our sins; those things done, and those things
left undone. The burden of sin is heavy, and we cannot free
ourselves.**

**In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

*The ELW
(Evangelical
Lutheran Worship)
is the red worship
book in the pew
rack. In the ELW,
find hymns not
printed in the
bulletin and
harmony to those
printed.*

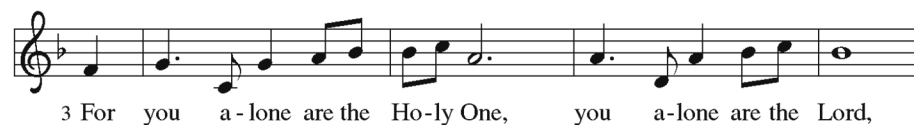
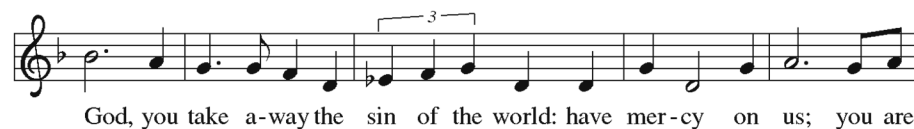
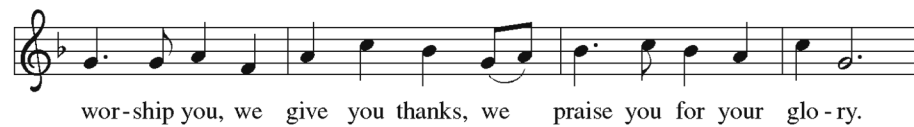
Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
and have received grace in which we stand.
Therefore, your sins + are forgiven;
By the power of Jesus death and resurrection
you are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* **ELW 756**

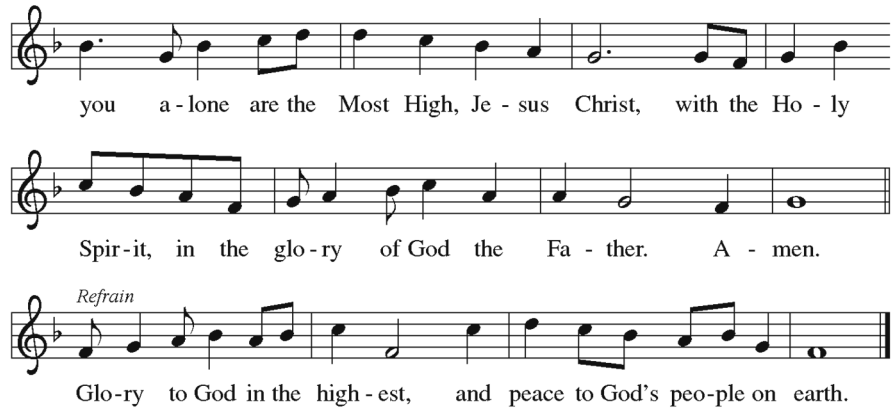
APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Drawn from the hymns in the book of Revelation, the words of this hymn of praise joins Passover and Easter with a glimpse of the kingdom now, and reign of God yet to come.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SIT

WORD

FIRST LESSON

see page 12 of this bulletin

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

see page 13 of this bulletin

SECOND LESSON

see page 13 of this bulletin

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



STAND & SING as the procession moves to the center of the sanctuary.

Verse: *I will wait for you, O Lord; in your word is my hope. (Ps. 130:5)*

REPEAT ALLELUIA

HOLY GOSPEL

see page 14 of this bulletin

before the Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel (God's Word) is a reminder that our Lord is in our midst.

after the Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

I Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
heav'n de-scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

The procession returns to the chancel as the Acclamation is sung by ALL.

chancel: *the front of the sanctuary (the entire worship space) where Word and Sacrament is celebrated. The Word is proclaimed in reading, preaching and singing.*

SIT **HOMILY**

STAND **HYMN OF THE DAY** *Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me* **ELW 755**

APOSTLES CREED

*The Creed is a
statement of what
Christian people
believe about God.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

*The sign of peace
is a greeting
between
believers that
invites the peace
of God to dwell
within and
between each
person. This
means that
sharing the peace
is much more than
an act of
hospitality or
hello.*

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

INTERCESSIONS

**Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.**

PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

TABLE SETTING***In the Singing*****ELW 466**

1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926

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REMAIN

STANDING & SING
*as the ushers bring
the gifts of bread
and wine forward
as the table is set.*

PRAYER

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving is understood as an act of praise and thanksgiving. Following Jewish customs, the emerging Christian liturgies blessed God (that is, thanked God) for his kindness and love.

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
 Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
 that we should at all times and in all places
 give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God
 through our Savior Jesus Christ;
 who overcame death and the grave,
 and by his glorious resurrection
 opened to us the way of everlasting life.
 And so with all the choirs of angels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven
 we praise your name and join there unending hymn:

SANCTUS (Holy, Holy, Holy)

The Sanctus (sanctus, Latin, means holy) is a series of angelic acclamations which accompanied Isaiah's vision of God (Isaiah 6:3 also Psalm 118:26).

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, almighty, and merciful God.
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

The Words of Institution

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Remembering, therefore, his life-giving passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



In the Eucharistic Prayer, the church gives thanks for God the Father and creator; for Jesus who saves and redeems us; and for the Holy Spirit that stirs and enlightens our faith that we might proclaim the mighty work of God in word and deed.

The word eucharist means 'thanksgiving.' When we use this term for the sacrament the emphasis is on the joy and celebration with which we thank the Risen Lord Jesus for his real presence as we receive his body and blood.

In these first words God would encourage us to believe that he is truly our Father and we are truly his children in order that we may approach him boldly and confidently in prayer, even as beloved children approach their dear father.

(Luther's Small Catechism Introduction to the Lord's Prayer)

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven...

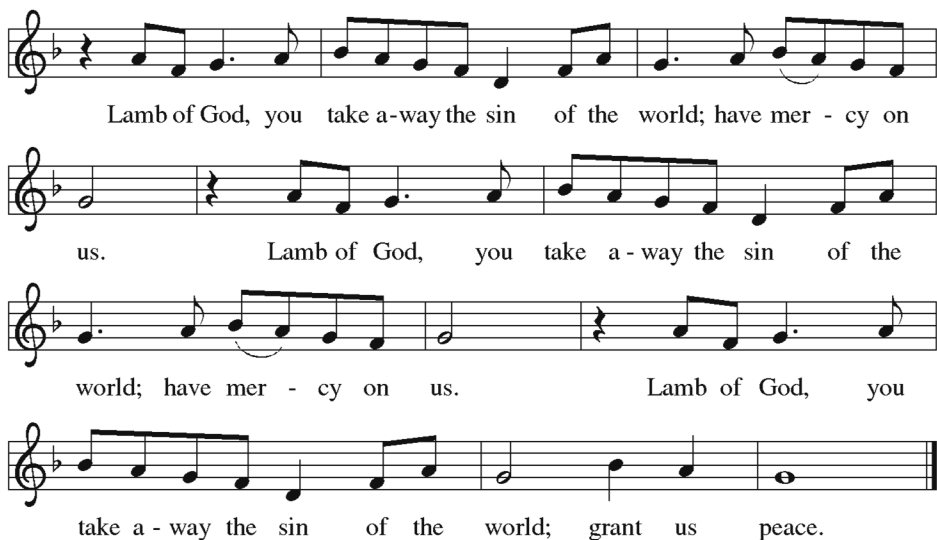
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.

Come to the banquet.

Let us rejoice and be glad.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

SIT

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

ELW 767

STAND

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

SENDING PRAYER

O Lord, we thank you for your Spirit who calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies us by the means of grace. As we have received you in this meal, so send us out that we may faithfully feed others with the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The sign of the cross is made in remembrance of Holy Baptism

BENEDICTION

HYMN *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* ELW 545

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Good News!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE *Toccata in e* Johann Pachelbel

SAINT JAMES COMMUNION PRACTICE	
Welcome	Saint James practices an open table for Holy Communion, which means that <u>all people are invited to participate in the sacrament</u> . Jesus is the host of the meal and extends a wide welcome. Children are welcome to participate, but may also come forward with folded arms to receive a blessing.
Benefit	What is the benefit of sharing in the meal? The words “given for you” and “shed for you” show us that the forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament. (Luther’s Small Catechism)
Distribution	Come forward via the central aisle. Receive the host (bread/Jesus’ body) in the hand, then dip it into the cup with wine (Jesus’ blood). Or consume it and take an individual cup of wine (purple) or juice (golden). A gluten free host is offered by saying “gluten free” to the pastor. Return to your place via the outside aisles for private prayer.

FIRST LESSON**1 Kings 19:9-18**

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

⁹ At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

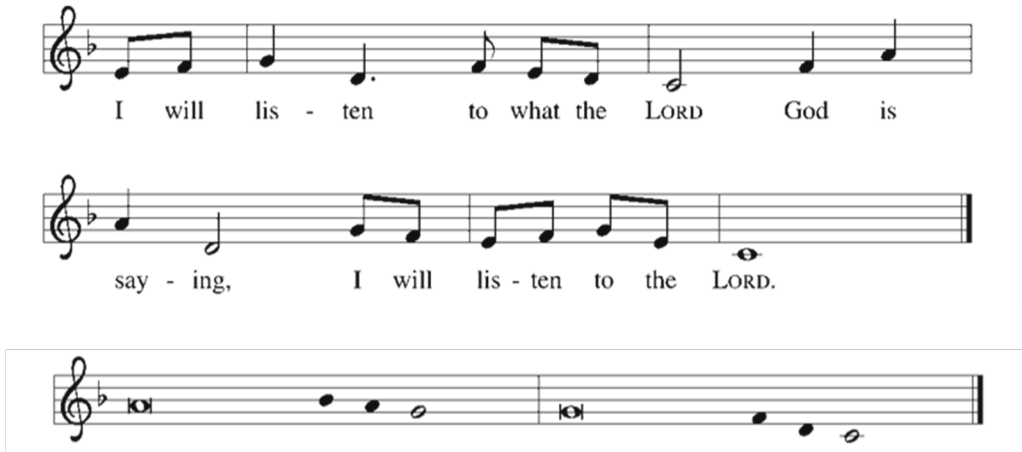
¹¹ He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85:8–13



- ⁸I will listen to what the LORD¹ God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people
and to those who turn their¹ hearts to you.
- ⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to¹ those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell¹ in our land. Refrain**
- ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have¹ met together;
righteousness and peace have¹ kissed each other.
- ¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up¹ from the earth,
and righteousness shall look¹ down from heaven.**
- ¹²The LORD will indeed¹ grant prosperity,
and our land will¹ yield its increase.
- ¹³**Righteousness shall go be-¹ fore the LORD
and shall prepare for¹ God a pathway. Refrain**

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SECOND LESSON

Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do

not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

"The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

following the lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Return to page 5 for the Gospel Acclamation

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

before the Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel is read.

after the Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Return to page 5 for the Gospel Acclamation

Worship Leaders for August 9 (10 AM)

Assisting Minister: Susan Allison
Crucifer: Emily Richardson
Communion Assistant: Gini Bunchek
Lector: Nancy Kopka
Altar Guild: Sue Carson & Mary Mathison
Livestream: Susan Allison
Ushers: Marcia and Mark Wilson

August 16 — 10 AM at St. Paul

Worship Leaders for August 23 (10 AM)

Assisting Minister: Sue Stieber
Crucifer: Andrew Picek
Communion Assistant: Nancy Kopka
Lector: Arnold Brammeier
Altar Guild: Marcia and Mark Wilson
Livestream: Lena Picek
Ushers: Barb and Ray Radtke

Full August schedule available on the kiosk

Offering Plates

Saint James places offering plates at each entrance to the sanctuary. For more information about offerings, including electronic giving, see the bulletin. Thank you for your faithfulness in stewardship. Every contribution helps to support Saint James' mission and the proclamation of the gospel in the world. Find us on Zelle using: giving@stjamesgp.org

Remember in Prayer – Barbara Crowther (Ray Radtke's sister) - Dale Marshall - All deployed military and their families.

Contact Emily Moellering or Pastor to add a name to the Prayer List or to ask the Prayer Team to pray for a specific need.



Coffee Hour Please join us each Sunday after service for Coffee Hour in the Welcome Area (beyond the municipal parking lot doors near the nursery.) Grab a cup of coffee or juice and a goodie and enjoy some Christian fellowship.

Got News? Please send items for inclusion in the Saturday email newsletter to Alicia Taub no later than Thursday at noon of that week. All items for the Sunday bulletin must be sent to Emily Richardson at office@stjamesgp.org no later than Tuesday.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, August 9

Pentecost 11

10am: Holy Eucharist (**at Saint James**)
Fellowship immediately following worship

Monday, August 10

Office Closed on Mondays

Tuesday, August 11

8am: Men's Club Chorus (Undercroft)
9am-12pm: Office Hours

Wednesday, August 12

Pastor Grant's Office Day

8am: Men's Bible Breakfast (at National Coney Island)
9am-1pm: Office Hours
10am: Tau Beta (Gathering Area)
6pm: Council Meeting (Gathering Area)

Thursday, August 13

9am-12pm: Office Hours

Friday, August 14

Pastor's Day Off

Office Closed on Fridays

Sunday, August 16

Pentecost 12

10am: Holy Eucharist (**at St. Paul**)
Fellowship immediately following worship

Monday, August 17

Office Closed on Mondays

Tuesday, August 18

8am: Men's Club Chorus (Undercroft)
9am-12pm: Office Hours

Wednesday, August 19

Pastor Grant's Office Day

9am-1pm: Office Hours

Thursday, August 20

9am-12pm: Office Hours

Friday, August 21

Pastor's Day Off

Office Closed on Fridays

Sunday, August 23

Pentecost 13

10am: Holy Eucharist (**at Saint James**)
Fellowship immediately following worship

LOOKING AHEAD:

Aug. 30 — 10am Worship at St. Paul

Sept. 6 — 10am Worship at Saint James

Sept. 13 — Return to 11am Worship at Saint James

The Weekly Newsletter of Saint James Lutheran Church For the Week of August 9, 2026



FLOWERS Flowers on the altar were given by Sandy Noecker with praise to God for the blessing of Marshall Noecker, a wonderful husband and father to eight children.

SAINT JAMES would like to remind all to please ensure that your phones and other electronic devices are silenced, switched to vibrate or turned off before worship begins. Thank you for your cooperation!



ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY Saint James is happy to announce the 50th Anniversary of **Rev. James C. Couser**! Rev. Couser was a longtime member of Saint James and was ordained here on August 8, 1976. Rev. Couser's ordination will be recognized during regular worship today at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Grand Ledge, MI.

Saint James played a vital role in Rev. Couser's faith formation and ministry training, and we are happy to celebrate this milestone! An original newspaper clipping announcing his ordination can be found hanging in the hallway across from the elevator, and a letter from Rev. Couser announcing this milestone can be found in your Saturday eNews.



CHURCH DIRECTORY Printed copies of the newly updated church directory are available on the front pews. Please contact **Emily Richardson** (office@stjamesgp.org) from your email address on file to request a digital (PDF) copy. Current copies say "Updated July 29, 2026" on the front. Please discard any old copies you have.

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet next on **Wednesday, August 12 at 6:00 PM** in the Gathering Area. All members are welcome to attend any council meeting.



RUMMAGE SALE The St. Paul Annual Rummage Sale will be held on **September 11th from 9 AM-4 PM & September 12th from 9 AM-3 PM** in the St. Paul basement. September 12 will be the half-price day. Donations for the sale are welcome now through **August 31**, and can be dropped off at St. Paul **Mondays from 6-8 PM, Tuesdays from 10 AM-2 PM and Thursdays from 10 AM-2 PM.**

SUMMER SCHEDULE our Summer Schedule continues next week **Sunday, Aug. 16 at St. Paul at 10 AM.** Each week there will be one worship service at 10 AM, either at Saint James or St. Paul. St. Paul is located at 375 Lothrop Rd (at Chalfonte) in Grosse Pointe Farms. We will be alternating every other week between the two churches. The full schedule can be found on the kiosk and in your Saturday eNews. Copies are available to take with you on the front pews.

All services are at 10 AM

Aug. 16 at St. Paul

Aug. 23 at Saint James

Aug. 30 at St. Paul

Sept. 6 at Saint James — final summer schedule service!